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Thailand

Grain and Feed

Weekly Rice Price Update

2005

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Report Highlights:

Export prices were virtually unchanged from the previous week and will likely be steady over the next two weeks.

Includes PSD Changes: No
Includes Trade Matrix: No
Unscheduled Report
Bangkok [TH1]
[TH]

Indicative Prices (Week Ending Jan. 31):

Thailand: Export (FOB) Prices for various grades of rice (USD/M.T.)									
	Exporter Observations							Period Avg.	
	#1	#2	#3	#4	#5	#6	#7	CUR.	PRV.
F WR 100 B	450	435	450	459	435	440	420	441	441
WR 100 B	295	294	295	297	297	296	292	295	295
PB 5%	290	285	295	297	293	296	282	291	291
WR 5%	290	289	290	292	292	291	287	290	290
WR 10%	285	284	285	289	290	289	282	286	286
WR 15%	280	278	280	287	286	285	277	282	282
WR 25%	270	267	268	284	266	267	272	271	270
WR 35%	267	263	-	281	264	265	267	268	268
A 1 SUP	233	230	-	236	234	230	232	233	233
A 1 SPEC	232	229	-	233	232	-	230	231	231
Source: Average actual prices received from exporters									

Market Tone

Export prices for all grades of rice were virtually unchanged from the previous week. The demand for pending shipments reportedly slowed down. However, domestic supply remained tight due to the government intervention program and drought-triggered uncertainties on second crop outlook. So far, the government has bought about 3.1 million tons of paddy, of which 1.9 million tons were white rice paddy. Trade sources expected the prices will be steady at these high levels over the next two weeks during the Chinese New Year holiday. Currently, Vietnamese rice dominated the market due to its relatively cheaper prices. Trade sources reported that Vietnamese rice will likely get the deal for the coming Philippines's tender for white rice in the amount of 500,000 tons.

The following are reported rice exports (as is basis):

WEEK ENDING	QUANTITY	4-WK AVG	YEAR TO DATE	YEAR AGO
	(MT)	(MT)	(TMT)	(TMT)
DEC 19	112,254	141,983	7,668	5,045
DEC 26	106,103	128,616	7,775	5,177
DEC 31	88,510	-	7,863	5,299
JAN 2	3,045	-	3	5
JAN 9	121,108	-	124	76
JAN 16	169,028	-	293	193
JAN 23	120,044	-	413	263
JAN 30	134,431	136,153	548	362

Note on data: Export figures since March 22, 2002, do not include fragrant rice. The authority to report fragrant rice exports was moved from the Thai Board of Trade to the Ministry of Commerce's Office of Commodity Standards, which does not release official fragrant rice export data. FAS/BKK will report only official export numbers from the Board of Trade for non-fragrant and from the Office of Commodity Standards for fragrant rice when available, but the reader should bear in mind the difference between the data.

Unofficial exports (excluding fragrant rice) for Jan. 24-30 totaled 134,431 tons, up 14,387 tons from the previous week's total and down 1,722 tons from the four-week moving average of 136,153 tons. Exports during Jan. 1-30, 2005 amounted to 547,656 tons, compared with 263,372 tons in the previous year.

According to the Department of Foreign Trade, Ministry of Commerce, total rice exports (including fragrant rice) during Jan. 1-26, 2005, amounted to 642,154 tons, up 48 percent from 435,255 tons in the previous year.

Weekly Rice Sales

Private registered rice export sales for the period of Jan. 10-14, Jan. 17-21, and Jan. 24-28, 2005 are as follows:

Movement (MT)	Jan. 10-14	Jan. 17-21	Jan. 24-28
weekly sales	133,527	157,190	159,262
4 week sum	-	-	639,616
4 week mov. avg.	-	-	159,904
Total weekly sales	323,164	480,354	639,616

End of Report.